IN THE SPECIFICATION

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

1. On page 1, after the title, "Method for the reverse transcription and/or amplification of nucleic acids," please insert the following new paragraph:

> This application is a United States national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. §371 of international (PCT) application No. PCT/EP2004/008363, filed July 26, 2004 and designating the US, and claiming priority to US provisional application 60/489,643, filed July 24, 2003.

2. On page 14, please replace the paragraph spanning lines 1-5 with the following amended paragraph:

> alpha_473: 5'CTC CAG CTT AAC GGT - phosphate group - 3' (SEQ ID NO. 1)
> alpha_465: 5'TAA CGG TAT TTG GAG - phosphate group - 3' (SEQ ID NO. 2)
> alpha_ 465_long: 5' TAA CGG TAT TTG GAG GTC AGC ACG GTG CTC-phosphate group - 3' (SEQ ID NO. 3)

3. On page 14, please replace the paragraph spanning lines 13-16 with the following amended paragraph:

> beta_554: 5'GTA GTT GGA CTT AGG - phosphate group - 3' (SEQ ID NO. 4)
> beta_594: 5'ATC CAG ATG CTC AAG - phosphate group - 3' (SEQ ID NO. 5)
> beta_554_long: 5'GTA GTT GGA CTT AGG GAA CAA AGG AAC CTT - phosphate group - 3' (SEQ ID NO. 6)

4. On page 14, please replace the paragraph spanning lines 24-31 with the following amended paragraph:

> alpha_473: N- CTC CAG CTT AAC GGT -C* (SEQ ID NO. 7)
> alpha_465: N- TAA CGG TAT TTG GAG -C* (SEQ ID NO. 8)
> alpha_363: N- GTC ACC AGC AGG CA -C* (SEQ ID NO. 9)
> alpha_393: N- GTG AAC TCG GCG -C* (SEQ ID NO. 10)
> alpha_473**: N- TGG CAA TTC GAC CTC -C* (SEQ ID NO. 11)
> alpha_465**: N- GAG GTT TAT GGC AAT -C* (SEQ ID NO. 12)
> alpha_363**: N- ACG GAC GAC CAC TG -C* (SEQ ID NO. 13)
> alpha_393**: N- GCG GCT CAA GTG -C* (SEQ ID NO. 14)

5. On page 15, please replace the paragraph spanning lines 6-15 with the following amended paragraph:

 beta-554: N- GTA GTT GGA CTT AGG -C* <u>(SEQ ID NO. 15)</u>
 beta-594: N- ATC CAG ATG CTC AAG -C* <u>(SEQ ID NO. 16)</u>
 beta-539: N- CCC CAG TTT AGT AGT -C* <u>(SEQ ID NO. 17)</u>
 beta-541: N- CAG TTT AGT AGT TGG -C* <u>(SEQ ID NO. 18)</u>
 beta-579: N- GCC CTT CAT AAT ATC -C* <u>(SEQ ID NO. 19)</u>
 beta-554**: N- GGA TTC AGG TTG ATG -C* <u>(SEQ ID NO. 20)</u>
 beta-594**: N- GAA CTC GAT GAC CTA -C* <u>(SEQ ID NO. 21)</u>
 beta-539**: N- TGA TGA TTT GAC CCC -C* <u>(SEQ ID NO. 22)</u>
 beta-541**: N- GGT TGA TGA TTT GAC -C* <u>(SEQ ID NO. 23)</u>
 beta-579**: N- CTA TAA TAC TTC CCG -C* <u>(SEQ ID NO. 24)</u>

6. On page 15, please replace the paragraph spanning lines 27-30 with the following amended paragraph:

 alpha_473: 5'CTC CAG CTT AAC GGT - octanediol - 3' <u>(SEQ ID NO. 25)</u>
 alpha_465: 5'TAA CGG TAT TTG GAG - octanediol - 3' <u>(SEQ ID NO. 26)</u>
 alpha_363: 5' GTC ACC AGC AGG CA - octanediol - 3' <u>(SEQ ID NO. 27)</u>
 alpha_393: 5' GTG AAC TCG GCG - octanediol - 3 <u>(SEQ ID NO. 28)</u>

7. On page 16, please replace the paragraph spanning lines 6-10 with the following amended paragraph:

 beta-554: 5' GTA GTT GGA CTT AGG - octanediol - 3' <u>(SEQ ID NO. 29)</u>
 beta-594: 5' ATC CAG ATG CTC AAG - octanediol - 3' <u>(SEQ ID NO. 30)</u>
 beta-539: 5' CCC CAG TTT AGT AGT - octanediol - 3' <u>(SEQ ID NO. 31)</u>
 beta-541: 5' CAG TTT AGT AGT TGG - octanediol - 3' <u>(SEQ ID NO. 32)</u>
 beta-579: 5' GCC CTT CAT AAT ATC - octanediol - 3' <u>(SEQ ID NO. 33)</u>